(c), (d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Roads are declared as NHs not on the basis of any area, region; State or population level, but are considered keeping in view the country as a whole vis-a-vis fulfilment of criteria for new National Highways, proximity of other National Highways and the availability of funds for the purpose.

Length of National Highways in the Country

1957. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:

SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total length in Kms. of national highways in the country;

(b) what is the length of national highways in Maharashtra;

(c) whether there are any new proposals from Maharashtra regarding national highways; and

(d) if so, what action is taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) 32,138 Kms.

(b) 2,888 Kms.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. However, owing to meagre allocation earmarked for new National Highways in the current Plan, it is not possible at present to make new additions in the National Highways network in Maharashtra.

Day Train between Jammu Tawi and Delhi

1958. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a long standing demand of the people of Jammu and Kashmir for a day time railway train between Jammu Tawi and Delhi; and

(b) whether Government propose to start such a train in view of influx of fifteen lakh pilgrims who visit Vaishno Devi cave shrine in Jammu and five lakh tourists who visit Kashmir every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Suggestions have been received to this effect.

(b) Seven pairs of trains are already available between Jammu Tawi and Delhi. Due to inadequate terminal facilities at Jammu Tawi and shortage of coaches and locomotives the proposal is not feasible at present.

Indian Delegation to World Sanskrit Conference

1959. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that World Sanskrit Conference is being held at Liedon (Holland) this year in which Sanskrit Scholars from all over the world are participating;

(b) whether his Ministry is also sending a delegation there; and

(c) if so, how many delegates are being sent and what are their qualifications and status?